



# OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Monthly Newsletter March 2010

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◆ **2010 Occupational Health (OH) Meeting:** Plans are being finalized for the annual meeting June 7-11, in San Antonio, TX at the [Hotel Contessa](#). A Draft Agenda will soon to be posted to the [OHP website](#); please be sure to check back often for updates. Meeting registration will be available March 15. Each individual guest must register for the meeting and make their own hotel reservations by calling the hotel's toll free number: 866-435-0900 or [reserving a room on line](#). Attendees must identify themselves as a participant attending the 2010 NASA OH Meeting. Hotel room rate is \$117.00 + tax (government room rate). The last date to reserve a room and be assured a government rate is Monday, May 5, 2010.



◆ **2010 HealthierYou Campaign:** [My Fitness Solution \(MFS\) Campaign](#) will be held from March 1 to April 30, 2010. Please utilize the two Employee [Educational Communications](#) documents to inform employees about the Mayo Clinic registration and MFS enrollment processes. Employees must register on Mayo Clinic before they can enroll in the Campaign. Use the HPW Educational document to understand the many features of the MFS Module. If you have 150 or more participants you will receive Center-specific outcomes data as well as the Agency aggregate.



## ◆ Health Promotion and Wellness Programmatic Goals and Objectives:

Please plan to attend the [Health Promotion and Wellness](#) (HPW) ViTS on March 11, 2010, at 11:00 ET. We have a full agenda for discussion. A detailed email was sent on February 24 to the HPW team regarding this event. The item of most importance is the path for the future of the HPW Team and our goals and objectives. The HPW ViTS scheduled on June 10th is going to be cancelled and replaced by three live Web Ex presentations from the annual OH Meeting in San Antonio on June 9, starting at 9:00 AM CT, please mark your calendars. Instructions will be distributed closer to the date. The presentations are from 9:00-10:00 AM CT, 10:30-12:00 noon CT, and 2:30-3:30 PM CT.

◆ **EHRIS Project Update:** The 2010 [Medgate User Group Conference](#) was attended by representatives from the Agency OH Office and SSC Clinic Staff. The Conference focus was bringing together users to help provide feedback to the company as [Medgate](#) seeks to improve their software product. The Conference offered us an opportunity to network with Medgate users from other government agencies and corporations. Client-user presentations provided insights to taking the EHRIS beyond basic occupational medicine such as building a health promotion "surveillance" group. The next Agency EHRIS Task Force meeting/webinar is scheduled on Wednesday, March 10, from 11:30 - 12:30 PM EST. We will review some of the medical configuration issues and ask each Center for input on what works best based on current clinical and business practices. Additionally the agenda will provide an overview of Medgate GX which is the newest version of the software.

◆ **Congratulations to MSFC's Patrick Patterson and Philip Brown:** Congratulations to the laser safety staff at Marshall Space Flight Center. NASA's newest professionals to pass the [Board of Laser Safety's](#) certification exam are Philip Brown and Patrick Patterson. This certification demonstrates competency in laser safety and adherence to high standards of professional practice.



◆ **2010 NASA Safety Directors and Occupational Health Managers Meeting:** This annual meeting is an excellent opportunity to discuss safety and health topics with your NASA Center Colleagues. If you plan to attend the March 16-18, 2010 NASA Safety Directors and Occupational Health Managers Meeting please [register](#) soon. The [draft agenda](#) for the upcoming 2010 NASA Safety Directors and Occupational Health Managers Meeting is now available on the website.

◆ **NASA Standards Service:** Did you know as a resident employee of a NASA Center you can order and receive Standards from consensus setting organizations like ANSI, ASTM, ASHRAE, etc. at no cost to you or your organization? This is the [NASA Technical Standards Program](#) (NTSP) is sponsored by the Office of the NASA Chief Engineer. The primary mission is the enhancement of NASA's engineering capabilities by providing technical standards required to meet the needs of the Agency. This service allows you as an Occupational Health and Safety professional to stay current with the consensus standards that often times drive our practice.

◆ **What is "EAP"?:** The NASA Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a component of the Agency's Occupational Health Program. It is a confidential service provided at no cost to NASA Center employees who are coping with issues such as stress (personal and work-related), job loss, depression, grief, addictive behavior, relationship difficulties, anger management, financial difficulties, eldercare issues, and substance abuse. Each NASA location employs at least one professional EAP counselor who is available to talk to employees and their family members confidentially to help them through life's bumps in the road. Regardless of what your individual situation might be, the EAP counselor at your location is there to help. EAP counselors are also available to assist supervisors and can provide guidance for understanding employees who appear to be dealing with certain problems, which result in absenteeism, loss of productivity, and unacceptable behavior. A [list of EAP counselors](#) is maintained on the Occupational Health website.

## ◆ NASA OH Center Review Calendar:

- March 15-19 - Marshall Space Flight Center

## ◆ Upcoming OH ViTS & Webinars:

- EAP ViTS – March 4, 11:00-12:00 EST
- Environmental Health ViTS – March 10, 11:00-12:00 EST
- EHRIS Task Force Webinar – March 10, 11:30-12:30 EST
- Health Promotion ViTS – March 11, 11:00-12:00 EST

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